

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A tool for dispensing plastic fasteners from a fastener clip, each plastic fastener having a cross bar coupled to a common runner bar by a stub, the apparatus

comprising:

- a. a gun shaped casing having a front, a rear and a top, a guide groove extending down from the top for receiving said fastener clip,
- b. a hollow slotted needle mounted in the gun shaped casing, the hollow needle having an inlet opening in communication with the guide groove and an outlet opening;
- c. an ejector slide disposed within the gun shaped casing and movable back and forth therein;
- d. a feed slide disposed within the gun shaped casing and movable back and forth therein,
- e. a feed cam inside the casing rotably mounted at one place onto the casing and pivotally mounted at another place onto the feed slide, the feed cam having a pair of spaced apart pins;
- f. a feed pawl disposed on the feed cam between the pair of pins, the feed pawl having a tooth for engaging the stub of a plastic fastener so that the cross bar of a plastic fastener to be dispensed is advanced into alignment with the inlet opening of the hollow needle;
- g. an ejector rod mounted on the ejector slide and slidably movable back and forth through said hollow slotted needle for pushing a plastic fastener to be dispensed through the hollow slotted needle and out of the hollow slotted needle through outlet opening, and

h. a trigger link assembly for moving the ejector slide and the feed slide back and forth within the gun shaped casing,

i. wherein, movement of the feed slide back and forth will cause rotational movement of the feed cam which in turn will cause upward and/or downward movement of the pair of spaced apart pins on the feed cam carrying with it the feed pawl and wherein movement of the ejector slide back and forth will move said ejector rod into and out of said hollow slotted needle.

2. The tool of claim 1 wherein said hollow slotted needle includes a rear end and wherein said rear end includes an antiback.

3. The tool of claim 2 wherein said rear end further includes a knife edge.

4. The tool of claim 2 wherein said feed slide includes a pair of projections on its front surface.

5. The tool of claim 2 wherein said trigger link assembly includes a trigger, an idler link and a trigger link.

6. The tool of claim 2 and further including a feed pawl spring for urging said feed pawl forward.

7. The tool of claim 2 and further including a feed slide spring for urging said feed slide backward.

8. The tool of claim 2 wherein said feed pawl is metal.

9. A tool for dispensing plastic fasteners from a fastener clip, each plastic fastener having a cross bar coupled to a common runner bar by a stub, the apparatus comprising:

a. a gun shaped casing having a guide groove for receiving said clip of fasteners;

b. a hollow slotted needle mounted in the gun shaped casing, the hollow slotted needle having an inlet opening in communication with the guide groove and an outlet opening;

c. a feed mechanism for feeding plastic fasteners into the hollow slotted needle, said feed mechanism including a rotably mounted feed cam and an articulating feed pawl movable by said feed cam,

d. an ejection mechanism for pushing plastic fasteners out through said hollow slotted needle; and

e. a trigger link assembly coupled to said feed mechanism and said ejection mechanism for controlling the operation of the feed mechanism and the ejection mechanism.

10. A fastener clip comprising:

a. a first fastener, said first fastener comprising a flexible filament having a first cross bar at one end;

b. a second fastener, said second fastener comprising a flexible filament having a first cross bar at one end;

c. said first fastener and said second fastener being arranged in a parallel, side-by-side, spaced relationship;

d. a first connector post connecting said first cross bar of said first fastener to said first cross bar of said second fastener;

e. an elongated runner bar spaced apart from the first cross bar ends of said first and second fasteners; and

f. an off center stub connecting said elongated runner bar to the first cross bar end of said first fastener, said off center stub having a first end which is formed onto the first enlarged end of said first fastener.